



Department of Defense **DIRECTIVE**

NUMBER 5105.54

June 26, 1989

SA, OSD

SUBJECT: Executive Committee of the Department of Defense

1. PURPOSE

This Directive establishes the Executive Committee (EXCOM) of the Department of Defense (DoD).

2. APPLICABILITY AND SCOPE

This Directive applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), the Military Departments, the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS), the Joint Staff, the Unified and Specified Commands, the Inspector General of the DoD, the Defense Agencies, and the DoD Field Activities (hereafter referred to collectively as "DoD Components").

3. MISSION

The EXCOM exists to provide the Secretary of Defense the opportunity to receive in confidence and with candor the advice, opinions, and judgments of the Secretary's senior advisors.

4. MEMBERSHIP

4.1. Membership shall consist of the following officials:

4.1.1. The Secretary of Defense (Chair);

- 4.1.2. The Deputy Secretary of Defense;
- 4.1.3. The Secretary of the Army;
- 4.1.4. The Secretary of the Navy;
- 4.1.5. The Secretary of the Air Force;
- 4.1.6. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff;
- 4.1.7. The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition; and
- 4.1.8. The Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

4.2. The DoD General Counsel shall serve as the Legal Advisor to the EXCOM.

4.3. The Special Assistant to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense shall serve as the Executive Secretary of the EXCOM.

4.4. In the case of absence or disability of the Secretary of Defense, or when directed by the Secretary of Defense, the Deputy Secretary of Defense shall serve as Chair of the EXCOM.

4.5. In the case of absence or disability of the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense, the individual acting as the Secretary of Defense shall serve as the Chair of the EXCOM.

5. OPERATION AND ADMINISTRATION

5.1. The EXCOM shall meet at the call of the Chair.

5.2. Attendance at EXCOM meetings is limited to:

- 5.2.1. Members of the XCOM;
- 5.2.2. The Legal Advisor to the EXCOM;
- 5.2.3. The Executive Secretary of the EXCOM; and
- 5.2.4. Other persons specifically invited by the Chair to attend a particular

meeting.

5.3. For the purposes of ensuring candor at meetings of the EXCOM, and to the maximum extent permitted by law, attendees at the EXCOM meetings shall not disclose any of the contents of the deliberations of the EXCOM.

6. EFFECTIVE DATE

6.1. This Directive is effective immediately.

6.2. Nothing in this Directive limits or otherwise affects the authority, direction, and control of the Secretary of Defense over the DoD.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dick Cheney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

RICHARD B. CHENEY
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE